

# Memorandum

**To:** Chair and Commissioners

**Date:** February 23, 2006

**From:** JOHN F. BARNA, JR.  
Executive Director

**File No:** Ref. Agenda 2.2c.(2)  
ACTION

**Ref:** **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING – WIDEN FRIANT ROAD TO FOUR LANES FROM COPPER AVENUE TO ROAD 206 IN FRESNO COUNTY (TCRP #96) (FINAL ND) RESOLUTION E-06-04**

**Issue:** Should the Commission approve the County of Fresno's Final Negative Declaration for widening Friant Road to four lanes from Copper Avenue to Road 206 near the town of Friant in Fresno County?

**Recommendation:** Commission staff recommends that the Commission, as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-06-04. As a responsible agency, the Commission must approve this resolution prior to allocating funds for capital purposes on the proposed project.

The proposed project is to reconstruct 7.9 miles of Friant Lane from a rural two-lane road to a four-lane road between Copper Avenue and Road 206. The project begins northeast of the City of Fresno and ends near the town of Friant.

The proposed project is to reduce congestion and improve the future level of service and safety along this section of Friant Road. The project is estimated to cost about \$15.86 million and will be funded with \$10 million from Traffic Congestion Relief Program funding and the remainder from federal and local measure funds. If TCR funds are not available, Fresno will have to fund the project by using local measure or local gaming revenues.

**Background:** This resolution would approve for future consideration of funding the following project for which a Final Negative Declaration has been completed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):

- County of Fresno – reconstruct 7.9 miles of Friant Lane from a rural two-lane road to a four-lane road between Copper Avenue and Road 206 near the town of Friant in Fresno County.

The Final Negative Declaration has been transmitted to Commission staff. The Commission's approval and the resulting filing of the Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

Attachment

CTCmemo0206 Friant Rd Fresno Final ND.doc

## **CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

### **Resolution for Approval of Project for Consideration of Future Funding**

Widen Friant Road To Four Lanes From Copper Avenue To Road 206

Near The Town Of Friant

In Fresno County

Resolution E-06-04

- 1.1 WHEREAS**, the County of Fresno has completed a Final Negative Declaration in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines, and the California Transportation Commission's Environmental Regulations for the following project:
- County of Fresno – reconstruct 7.9 miles of Friant Lane from a rural two-lane road to a four-lane road between Copper Avenue and Road 206 near the town of Friant in Fresno County.
- 1.2 WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Negative Declaration; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS**, the County of Fresno has considered the record taken as a whole and found that the project will not individually or cumulatively have an adverse impact on wildlife resources or habitat.
- 2.1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission, as a responsible agency, finds that the project in the:
- County of Fresno – reconstruct 7.9 miles of Friant Lane from a rural two-lane road to a four-lane road between Copper Avenue and Road 206 near the town of Friant in Fresno County – is approved for future consideration of funding.